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§ 51. Grasses New to California.—In examining, in the herbarium of Isaac C. Martindale, some grasses collected in Plumas County, California, by Mrs. R. M. Austin, I found the following species which are not, to my knowledge, anywhere recorded as occurring within the State: *Hierochloa borealis*, R. & S.—a robust form, but very distinct from *H. macrophylla*, Thurb.; *Spartina gracilis*, Trin.; and *Briza minor*, L. The latter species has also been found on ships' ballast below Philadelphia, by Mr. Isaac Burk. I am not aware that this plant has before been mentioned as occurring in this country.

Girard College, Philadelphia.

F. LAMSON SCRIBNER.

§ 52. Ranunculus Cymbalaria, Pursh.—I have collected a pubescent form of this species of *Ranunculus*, at Belen, on the Rio Grande, and at McCarty's Ranche, on the Rio San Jose, both in New Mexico.

Silver City, N. M.

H. H. RUSBY.

§ 53. The Grasses of North America.—I propose to publish sets of the grasses of North America in fascicles of about one hundred species each, as fast as material can be gathered for the purpose.

It is intended that these sets shall be *authentic*, and no pains will be spared to make them so. The labels will be neatly printed, and will contain the accepted name of the plant, the more important synonyms, references to published descriptions, the geographical distribution of the species and the habitat of the specimen. When twenty-five or more good specimens of a species are received from any one collector his name will appear on the ticket.

In order to carry out my proposed work, I shall be obliged to depend largely upon the generosity of collectors and botanists interested in the progress of science, for specimens of species not found in this immediate vicinity. Those donating specimens will receive sets, more or less complete, according to the quantity and value of their contributions. Sets will also be sent to the more important herbaria of this and other countries, and a limited number will be offered for sale to subscribers.

I hope to have the first fascicle ready for distribution early next winter, and the others will follow as fast as they can be made up.

I shall be pleased to communicate with botanists interested in the success of the work here proposed, and wishing to aid in its prosecution; also with those who may have grasses which they would like to have named.

Girard College, Philadelphia, Pa.

F. LAMSON SCRIBNER.

§ 54. Botanical Literature.—Trimen's *Journal of Botany* for March contains articles on '*Potamogeton lanceolatus* of Smith,' by A. Bennett; 'Some Recent Tendencies in Botanical Nomenclature,' by B. D. Jackson; 'Some Mosses collected in Ireland,' by D. Orr; 'On Darwin's Doctrine of Cleistogamy,' by S. LeM. Moore; and on '*Erythraea capitata*,' by F. Townsend.

In the *Botanical Gazette* for April Prof. Rothrock describes certain modes of work in DeBary's laboratory; Mr. Rusby contributes notes on the fern-flora of New Mexico; Mr. Greene calls attention